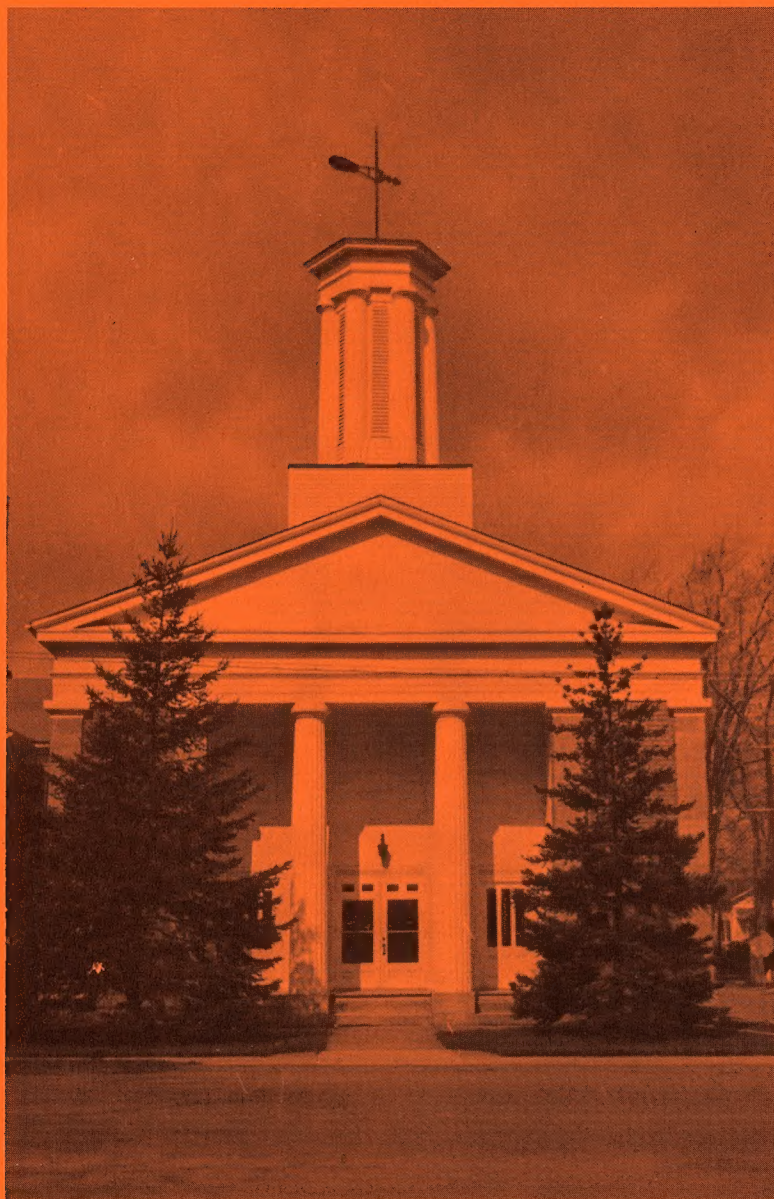


Sixth Annual Cobblestone Tour

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1966



O. W. Shelgrim, Jr. Photo

A MOTOR TOUR IN NIAGARA COUNTY

Sponsored by The Cobblestone Society

in cooperation with

THE NIAGARA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Booklet \$1.00

THE COBBLESTONE SOCIETY

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF COBBLESTONE ARCHITECTURE IN AMERICA

FOUNDED 1960 IN

CHILDS, NEW YORK

presents

THE SIXTH ANNUAL COBBLESTONE TOUR

in cooperation with

THE NIAGARA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Saturday, June 11, 1966 - 1 P. M. to 5 P. M.

STOPS

- A. Niagara County Historical Society, 215 Niagara St., Lockport, N. Y.
Tickets available here.
1. First Universalist Church, Middleport..... open
Tickets available here.
2. Clarence Sellick House..... open
3. Mr. & Mrs. William Webster House - "Cobblehurst"..... open
4. Randolph House..... not open
5. Schuler House..... not open
6. Mr. & Mrs. Albert Fiedler House..... open
7. North Ridge Methodist Church..... open
8. Hedrich House..... open
9. Carrigan House.....not open
10. Carveth House.....not open
11. Carveth House.....not open
12. Desso House..... open
13. Wilson House Hotel
14. Parmalee Hall..... open

1. FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH - MIDDLEPORT - OPEN
South Main St. - West side, & Church St.

This building was erected in 1841 and Fred Shy was the mason according to local tradition. The congregation then was supposed to have gathered the stones at church picnics. Greek Revival in style the building is topped by an unusual hexagonal cupola with doric pilasters at the corners. The front facade of the church has a recessed entrance with two free standing wood doric columns. These are flanked with stone pilasters enclosing cobblestone walls of selected gray waterwashed stones. The side walls are faced with field cobbles of varying sizes, shapes and colors.

Inside, the church auditorium was remodeled about the time of World War I. The original cast plaster central ceiling rosette remains. The stained glass windows are of the style popularized by Louis Comfort Tiffany.

2. CLARENCE SELICK HOUSE - OPEN
8993 Ridge Rd., Route 104, North side at West end of Johnson Creek

This building was erected around 1845 for a Mr. Herrington and is now the home of Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Sellick. It is a small story-&-a-half house, with a frame wing on the east end and has the feeling of a much older house. The outside walls of the main portion of the house are of field cobbles of varying sizes and colors. The quoins, lintels, and sills are of red sandstone with smooth faces.

Inside the house, the Sellicks have displayed throughout interesting pieces of 19th century glass and china ware. The stairway to the second floor is unusually wide for a small house. Upstairs, several doors still retain the original hardware. Of particular interest is a bedroom suite, circa 1865, with the original grained and painted finish.

3. MR. & MRS. WILLIAM WEBSTER HOUSE - "COBBLEHURST" - OPEN
Route 104, South side

This building came into being about 1836 as a Friends Meeting House. The outside walls are faced with large field cobbles of varying sizes, shapes and colors, the corner quoins are of gray sandstone. It was a plain, simple building in the true Quaker tradition and to the west may be seen the old Friends burying ground. Construction of the meeting house was supervised by a Mr. Garbutt.

About the time of World War I it was acquired by Emma Reed. (She presented the Tousley house in Albion to the D.A.R. for their headquarters.) In 1919 and 1920, with the help of Walter Landephear - architect, she turned the meeting house into a residence. So the interior is in the "Mission" style popularized by Elbert Hubbard and his Roycrofters of East Aurora, N. Y. Several of the lighting fixtures came from the Roycroft workshops, as did the wrought iron fireplace equipment at the Living Room fireplace. Several of the windows retain the stained glass of this period.

Outside the house Emma Reed laid out rather elaborate gardens with stone walls, walks and a pool. Mr. and Mrs. Webster, the present owners, have improved on her "sun porch" (being on the north side it receives little sun) by turning it into a swimming pool room.

4. RANDOLPH HOUSE - not open
Route 104, North side, 8472 Ridge Road

Built in the early 1830's by Washington Chaplin, it is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Randolph. This is a simple story-and-a-half farmhouse with the exterior walls of field cobbles of varying shapes and sizes with red sandstone quoins. The wood cornice is of post-Colonial or Federal design, while the front porch dates from the Civil War period.

5. SCHULER HOUSE - not open
Stone Road, Northwest of Lockport

Built around 1840 this simple, small story-and-a-half house has its front wall made of selected water-washed cobbles that gradually decrease in size the nearer they are to the top. The end walls are of field cobbles of varying sizes and colors, and the quoins, lintels, and window sills are of gray limestone.

6. MR. & MRS. ALBERT FIEDLER HOUSE - OPEN
Route 104, North side, 8472 Ridge Road

Built around 1840 by Whiting Taylor, this large farmhouse has a two-story main wing with a one story wing on the east side. The main walls are faced with selected water-washed cobbles, predominately gray in color. The quoins, now painted white, are of gray limestone, uniform in size with chamfered edges. On the sides of the house and at the rear where the ground drops away the stones are field cobbles of varying sizes and colors. On the rear, at basement level is a projecting cobblestone oven.

The front entrance is framed with side and over-lights composed of small glass panes. This opens to a simple handsome stair hall with original staircase intact. The wood trim in the adjoining rooms is the wide wood trim typical to Greek Revival buildings. The Fiedlers have several pieces of furniture that belonged originally to the seven Sutherland sisters of hair-growing fame.

7. NORTH RIDGE METHODIST CHURCH - OPEN
Route 93, South west corner of Route 425

Built in 1847, the front wall is of water washed cobbles, while the side and rear walls are of slightly larger field cobbles. Around 1880 the building was remodeled: the circular window over the front door was installed, the main window sash changed, and the tower added.

8. HEDRICH HOUSE - OPEN
2995 Maple Road, East Side between Nelson and Shadigee Roads

Built around 1840 of cut brown ledge rock, approx. 4" high per course, and laid in a manner akin to cobblestone, this Greek Revival house is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hedrich. The stone quoins and wood trim are painted white. Inside the woodwork is the simple woodwork of the period that varies slightly from room to room on the first floor. Mr. Hedrich has an interesting collection of early firearms.

9. CARRIGAN HOUSE - not open
2773 Maple Road, East side between Shadigee & Ide Roads

Built around 1845, this house has the typical farmhouse plan of Western New York - a story-and-a-half section at right angles to the road with a one-story wing parallel with the road. The walls are faced with gray and brown water-washed cobbles, those in the main portion are slightly smaller than in the wing. The quoins and other cut stone are gray limestone. The cornice is Greek Revival but the heads of the windows in the main portion show a changing of taste in the 1840's in Western New York. The windows are capped with stone label moldings of English Gothic inspiration. These were fashioned in Lockport for Mr. D. Ide, the original owner and hauled here at the cost of \$10.00 a piece. The house is now the property of Mr. and Mrs. James Carrigan.

10. CARVETH HOUSE - not open
2471 Maple Road, East side - between Ide & Wilson-Burt Roads

Built around 1835 for Mr. C. Pettit, this house is now owned by Mr. Stephen Carveth and not currently occupied. It is a simple Greek Revival farmhouse with a story-and-a-half main section parallel with the road and a one-story wing on the south end, also parallel with the road. The cobbles are field stones of various sizes and colors, while the quoins, window sills and lintels are of gray limestone. On the rear wall the cobblestone facing collapsed last winter leaving the rubble stone back-up exposed. Here is an opportunity to see what makes up most of the thickness of a cobblestone wall.

11. CARVETH HOUSE - not open
2449 Maple Road, East side - between Ide & Wilson-Burt Roads

Built around 1835 for Mr. Whatlock, this house sits separated from the road by a dry-stone wall and is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Carveth. Similar to the previous house, it has somewhat more elaborate architectural trim. The main entrance porch features a pair of wood doric columns and is guarded with a pair of cast iron dogs. The grilles over the belly windows in the cornice apparently are of wood, which is unusual.

A large wing extends to the rear. The cobbles are water-washed stones mainly gray and brown and slightly smaller on the front wall than on the other walls. Again, the cut stone is gray limestone.

12. DESSO HOUSE - OPEN
Route 425, East side - North of Ide Road

Built in 1845 by Captain Morgan Johnson who was captain of the ship "Milly Cove" which sank in Wilson Harbor. A few years ago, local fishermen snagged their lines on something. Investigation proved this to be the anchor of the "Milly Cove" which now rests on the lawn north west of the house. This house is the most elaborate, architecturally, of all houses included in the tour. The recessed center entrance is most unusual. It is approached by limestone steps which are flanked by recumbent stone consoles which act as low railings. Two stone columns - each in one piece - with circular doric caps help support the massive stone lintel, which has a stone cornice. The windows are fortunate in retaining the original small paned wood sash. The stone lintels with the narrow projecting band at the top are unique. Note the great height of the wood cornice.

Inside the house, a center hallway is flanked by living rooms. The most unusual feature of the interior is the circular staircase in the center hall. A one-story wing, originally the service wing, extends to the rear. In various rooms are several interesting pieces of early and mid 19th century furniture.

On the side and rear of the building several sections of the cobblestone facing have recently fallen away revealing the rough back-up stone. Again these present the opportunity to see the construction of the exterior walls.

13. WILSON HOUSE HOTEL

300 Lake Street - East side at Main intersection - Wilson, N. Y.

While not being staffed on the tour by Cobblestone Society hosts and hostesses, being a place of public assembly, the public rooms of the interior may be viewed through the courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Fitzgerald who use the building as a restaurant.

This was built in 1844 as the residence of Luther Wilson. Later it became the Wilsonian Club and the interior changed to better suit the purposes of a club house, then in 1947 it became a restaurant. The cobbles of the exterior are water-washed stones - predominantly gray, with gray limestone lintels, sills and quoins. On the side wing an excellent job of repairing a section of the cobbles can be seen.

Inside greeting the visitor is a circular staircase, unfortunately the original railing is gone. In the bar room can be seen the original window trim.

14. PARMALEE HALL - OPEN

81 Lake Street, West side - Wilson, N. Y.

Now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Parmalee, this house was originally built in 1842. When the cobblestone facing of the front wall deteriorated a number of years ago it was replaced with stucco which makes a pleasant foil for the stone quoins at the corners and the cobblestones of the side walls. These cobbles are lake-washed stones of various colors, the quoins are of red sandstone and the lintels and sills are gray limestone.

Inside, the front portion of the house has a center stair hall flanked with living rooms. Note the interesting mantels at the fireplaces in these two rooms. In the north room the mantel is a simple molded wood casing surrounding the firebox and surmounted with a simple wood shelf. Across the hall the mantel is more elaborate, consisting of a column at each side supporting an entablature which forms the mantel shelf. Throughout the house can be seen superb pieces of early American furnishings whose quality speak for themselves and the discriminating taste of the owners.

The Ridge Road (Rt. 104) opened in 1809 and became a principal east-west route following the ridge created by the shore line of a pre-historic lake, which after the ice age, receded to become the shore of the present Lake Ontario. Along this highway, tour patrons will observe many cobblestone structures built in the period from 1825 - 1860 including the Cobblestone Society's church and school at Childs and school at Gaines.

People traveling east after the tour may find Route 18, parallel to Rt. 104 and nearer Lake Ontario, a pleasant drive. Those driving west may wish to visit the Falls or Old Fort Niagara.

Good eating places are available in this area as well as in Medina, Lockport and Lewiston.

IN APPRECIATION

The Cobblestone Society gratefully acknowledges the cooperation of The Niagara County Historical Society and cobblestone home owners whose generosity made this tour possible, namely: First Universalist Church, Middleport, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Sellick, Mr. & Mrs. William Webster, Mr. & Mrs. Albert Fiedler, North Ridge Methodist Church, Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Hedrich, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Desso and Mr. & Mrs. Lee Parmalee.

THE COBBLESTONE SOCIETY WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

We invite you to fill out the form below and mail together with check or money-order to Mrs. Richard Canuteson, Albion, N. Y. R #4, 14411.

MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTANCE FORM

To Cobblestone Society:

Please enroll me as a member of the Society for the coming year. I enclose a check for _____ dollars payable to the Society.

Signed _____

Address _____

Annual Dues:

Active Membership....\$2.00
Patron.....\$25.00
Student......50

Life Membership:

Individual.....\$100.00